

Page 4, delete the whole paragraph starting in line 22 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

a3

Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view along line 2-2;

Page 4, delete the whole paragraph starting in line 23 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

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Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a nasal mask including the cushion of Figs. 1 and 2;

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Page 4, delete the whole paragraph starting in line 25 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

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Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the nasal mask of Fig. 3 secured to a wearer's head;

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Page 4, after the paragraph starting in line 25, please add the following new paragraphs:

Fig. 5 is a side view of the mask cushion;

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Fig. 6 is a front view of the mask cushion;

Fig. 7 is a rear view of the mask cushion;

Fig. 8 is a sectional view along section lines 8-8 of Fig. 7; and

Fig. 9 is a sectional view along section lines 9-9 of Fig. 7.

Page 5, delete the heading starting at line 1 and replace with the following new heading:

a6

Detailed Description of Preferred Embodiments.

Page 5, delete the whole paragraph starting in line 2 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

a7
Fig. 1 shows a perspective view of a nasal cushion 30 embodying the invention. Fig. 2 shows the cross-sectional view along line 2-2. Referring to Figs. 1-2 and 5-9, the cushion 30 comprises a substantially triangularly shaped frame 32 from which extends a membrane 34. The frame 32 has a scalloped edge 36 by which the cushion 30 is affixed to a mask body, as presently will be described.

Page 5, delete the whole paragraph starting in line 14 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

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As is best seen in Fig. 2, the frame 32 and the membrane 34 are integrally formed, typically by in a one-shot molding process. The frame 32 and the membrane 34 are fabricated from a resilient material. One suitable such material is SILASTIC™ silicone elastomer manufactured by Dow Corning. The frame 32, is one preferred embodiment, has a typical thickness at its rim 40 of 1.5 mm. The membrane 34, in a preferred embodiment, has a typical thickness of 0.35 mm. In this way, the membrane 34 is relatively more flexible than the rim 40.

Page 5, delete the whole paragraph starting in line 21 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

In use of the cushion 30, a wearer's nose will be inserted in the aperture 38 to engage a seal forming portion 45 (formed between the dashed lines of Fig. 3) of the outer surface 41 to cause deformation of the membrane 34. Depending upon the securing force supplied to the membrane 34, it may deform to a point where it butts against the rim 40 of the frame 32. The frame 32 has a rigidity sufficient to withstand usual securing pressures in use of the cushion 30 to tend to retain its shape and resist deformation. It thus acts as a supporting structure.

Page 6, delete the whole paragraph starting in line 1 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

Referring now to Fig. 3, the nasal cushion 30 is shown attached to a mask body 46 by the edge 36 of the frame 32, adhered or otherwise secured to a flange 48 of the mask body 46. Only the outer surface 41 of the membrane 34 can be seen. The flange 48 includes three slots 50, 52, 54 from which tensioning straps can be attached to secure the cushion 30 and the mask body 46 (in combination) to the head of a wearer.

Page 6, delete the whole paragraph starting in line 9 and replace it with the following new paragraph:

Referring now to Fig. 4, there is shown a nasal mask 60 including the mask body 46 and the mask cushion 30. A coupling tube 62 is connected at one end with the inlet port 56, and at the other to a socket 64 into which can be received a gas delivery tube 65 for the